

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4608

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 1884

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC (ALFORD, DAVID LEE)

SUBJ: W/W MRS. DAVID ALFORD

REFS: (A) STATE 168885 (B) ABU DHABI 1860 (C) DEPARTMENT

OPS MEMO (PT/LS) DTD JUNE 29 (D) ABU DHABI 1841

1. CONGRESSWOMAN MARILY LLOYD INTERESTED.

2. EMBASSY FINALLY SPOKE BY TELEPHONE TO MRS. ALFORD AFTERNOON OF JUNE 11. WE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES (CALHOUN AND CASE) THAT MRS. ALFORD AND THE CHILDREN HAD BEEN PROVIDED WITH TICKETS TO THE U.S. AND HAD DEPARTED PRIOR TO SHIPMENT OF REMAINS (REFTEL D). REFTEL A WAS FIRST INDICATION RECEIVED HERE THAT MRS. ALFORD STILL IN UAE.

3. EFFORTS CONTACT MRS. ALFORD VIA COMPANY WERE FRUITLESS, AND POLICE IN AL-AIN, WHERE MRS. ALFORD RESIDES, WERE ASKED TO COOPERATE IN CONTACTING HER AND ASKING HER TO CONTACT EMBASSY IN ABU DHABI. DURING TELEPHONE CONVERSATION, MRS. ALFORD STATED THAT SHE IS INDEED HAVING TROUBLE WITH COMPANY WHO REFUSING ASSIST HER. SHE SAYS THAT COMPANY DID PROVIDE HER AND CHILDREN WITH TICKETS BACK TO U.S. AND PAID HER SALARY DUE HER HUSBAND. SHE CLAIMS THAT COMPANY (CALHOUN) HAS REFUSED PAY ANY MONETARY COMPENSATION TO HER DUE DEATH OF HER HUSBAND IN JOB RELATED ACCIDENT. SHE FURTHER DEPOSES THAT COMPANY NOW REFUSING TALK TO HER OR ASSIST HER IN ANYWAY OTHER THAN IMMEDIATE DEPARTURES FROM
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COUNTRY. MRS. ALFORD REVEALED THAT SHE HAD BEEN

ADVISED BY MRS. BETTY WHITE (REFTEL A) NOT TO LEAVE COUNTRY UNTIL SHE HAD RECEIVED COMPENSATION. THEREFORE, MRS. ALFORD HAS NOT YET DEPARTED FOR U.S.

4. MRS ALFORD STATES THAT SHE HAD TALKED TO MRS. WHITE BY TELEPHONE AND THAT SHE TALKED TO HER MOTHER BY TELEPHONE "TWO DAYS AGO" (JULY 9). IN RESPONSE REFTEL A, MRS. ALFORD ASKS THAT DEPARTMENT ADVISE MRS. WHITE THAT SHE IS AS WELL AS CAN BE EXPECTED, THAT EVERYONE EXCEPT COMPANY IS RENDERING EVERY POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE, AND THAT SHE WILL BE IN TOUCH AS SHE HAS MORE INFORMATION.

5. CONSULAR OFFICER OFFERED TO MRS. ALFORD EVERY POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE INCLUDING PASSAGE OF MESSAGES BACK TO HER FAMILY VIA DEPARTMENT CHANNELS. SHE CLAIMS THAT SHE IS BEGINNING RUN SHORT OF CASH. THEREFORE, DEPARTMENT SHOULD ASCERTAIN WILLINGNESS AND READINESS OF FAMILY PROVIDE EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

6. MRS. ALFORD ASSURED CONSULAR OFFICER THAT SHE WOULD BE TRAVELING TO ABU DHABI FROM AL-AIN EITHER TOMORROW OR NEXT DAY (JULY 12 OR 13) IN ORDER MEET WITH CONSULAR OFFICER AND TO TAKE ONE OF CHILDREN TO HOSPITAL FOR IMMUNIZATION. WILL HAVE BETTER IDEA OF MRS. ALFORD'S SITUATION FOLLOWING INTERVIEW.

7. GIVEN BACKGROUND OF DECEASED HUSBAND'S EMPLOYERS, EMBASSY NOT SURPRISED AT PROBLEMS BEING ENCOUNTERED BY MRS. ALFORD. IN ANY EVENT, DEPARTMENT MAY ASSURE FAMILY THAT EMBASSY WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE ASSIST MRS. ALFORD AND EXPEDITE HER AND CHILDRENS' RETURN TO U.S.
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